

COUNTRY East Germany REPORT NO.                     

TOPIC Guthermut Cadre Unit in Potsdam

EVALUATION              25X1 PLACE OBTAINED              25X1

DATE OF CONTENT prior to 19 April 1953

DATE OBTAINED              25X1 DATE PREPARED 6 July 1953

REFERENCES                     

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     

REMARKS                     

                    

                    

                    

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1.                      the unit transferred from Torgau to Potsdam on 17 April 1953. The unit was subordinate to the TV Kochstedt and, in Potsdam, was quartered in a former cavalry barracks on Stalin Allee which had been occupied by a Soviet unit. Since Soviet rear details were still at this installation, the SF battalion, the tank battalion and the AA company of the unit had still to remain in Torgau. The Kavallerie Kaserne in Torgau which had previously quartered the unit was scheduled to be occupied by the Gloewen artillery school. <sup>1</sup>
2. On 19 April, the elements of the Guthermut cadre unit which transferred to Potsdam totaled 266 officers and 366 soldiers. The strength of the unit was to be brought to a total of 14,000 men at an undetermined date. <sup>2</sup>

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3.                      following strengths:

Headquarters	30 officers
Headquarters platoon	1 officer, 20 women
Supply platoon	20 officers, 40 NCOs and EM
Motor company	10 " 90 " "
S-1 Company	5 " 30 " "
S-2 "	6 " 30 " "
S-3 "	5 " 22 " "
1st Rifle Regt	75 " 250 " "
2d " "	54 " 194 " "
3d " "	60 " 90 " "

the rifle regiments were organized into a headquarters platoon, an engineer platoon, a medium machine gun platoon, 3 rifle companies and 1 medium mortar company.

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## 4. Officers of the unit included:

Major Guthermut (fnu)	commanding officer, veteran of the Spanish Civil War
Major Trapschuh (fnu)	chief of staff
Captain Boecke (fnu)	CO of the 2d Rifle Regt
Captain Kratzer (fnu)	deputy of Boecke
Senior Lieutenant Thiele (fnu)	PK officer of the 2d Rifle Regt
Senior Lieutenant Rochlitz (fnu)	deputy of Thiele
Senior Lieutenant Sommerfeld (fnu)	CO of the medium mortar company of the 2d Rifle Regt
Junior Lieutenant Biela (fnu)	first deputy of Sommerfeld
Junior Lieutenant Ippert (fnu)	second deputy of Sommerfeld and officer in charge of interior duties.

Officers whose functions were unknown included Major Liebetreu (fnu), Major Pfarrer (fnu), Senior Lieutenant Zimmermann (fnu), Junior Lieutenant Wagner (fnu), and Junior Lieutenant Studtloff (fnu). Soviet advisers included 1 lieutenant colonel and 1 major as advisers to the commanding officer and 3 majors as advisers to the rifle regiments.

5. During the period of observation, the personnel of the medium mortar company was activated only with the 2d Rifle Regt. Its armament consisted of 13 x 82-mm mortars. This number of mortars was also available to the other two rifle regiments. On 17 April, Soviet infantry weapons from the Kirchhain-Dobrilugk ordnance depot arrived and included about 900 carbines, 400 submachine guns, 150 light machine guns and 40 medium machine guns. Motor vehicles available to the unit included about 50 two-axle H 3 A trucks, 4 EMW sedans and 20 EMW, AWO and JAVA motorcycles.
6. The personnel of the unit belonged to the 1931 through 1935 classes. About 40 percent came from Brandenburg and Berlin, 20 percent from Saxony, 20 percent from Mecklenburg, and each 10 percent from Saxony-Anhalt and Thuringia.

25X1<sup>1</sup>. Comment.

the other elements of the cadre unit moved from Torgau to Potsdam by late May.

25X1 It is believed that, following the transfer to Potsdam, the unit was subordinate directly to the Ministry of the Interior as was the cadre unit which moved from Grossenhain to Oranienburg in March. All other units are under the control of Territorialverwaltungen.

25X1 The elements of the Torgau cadre unit which transferred on 17 April, were quartered in the former Leibhusaren Kaserne in Potsdam which had been occupied by a KVP PK school. It cannot be determined where the other elements of the unit were quartered. They may be quartered either in the former Gardekuersassier Kaserne on Stalin Allee or the barracks installation in Potsdam-Golm. The transfer to Torgau of the Gloewen artillery school was previously reported by other deserters.

2. Comment. It is probable that the cadre unit in Potsdam may be scheduled to be brought to full division strength. The unit had already received tanks and SF guns in addition to infantry weapons.

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